

Claim 77 (New). The magnetic recording medium according to claim 74 wherein the film thickness of said intermediate layer is in a range of 5 to 50 angstroms.

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Claim 78 (New). The magnetic recording medium according to claim 74 wherein said intermediate layer comprises a nonmagnetic material which includes the same crystal structure as that of said nonmagnetic film.

Claim 79 (New). The magnetic recording medium according to claim 78 wherein said intermediate layer comprises a material in which a crystal lattice surface interval does not match with that of said nonmagnetic film.

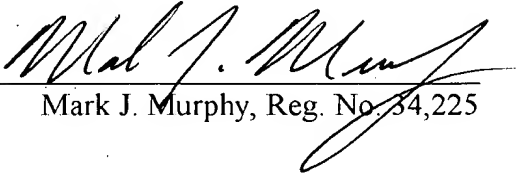
REMARKS

Applicants are making minor amendments to the claims and removing the multiple dependencies.

Favorable consideration is respectfully requested. Enclosed is the required amount of \$972.00 to cover the fee for adding 54 dependent claims. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee which may be required, or to credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1039.

Respectfully submitted,

COOK, ALEX, McFARRON, MANZO,
CUMMINGS & MEHLER, LTD.

By: 
Mark J. Murphy, Reg. No. 34,225

200 West Adams Street
Suite 2850
Chicago, Illinois 60606
(312) 236-8500

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MARKED-UP COPY OF THE SPECIFICATIONS AS AMENDED

Page 20, last paragraph (Amended). (Constitution 7) In the magnetic recording medium according to the constitution 6, the nonmagnetic film comprises the material containing one alloy selected from a group consisting of NiAl, AlCo, FeAl, FeTi, CoFe, CoTi, CoHf, CoZr, NiTi, CuZn, AlMn, AlRe, AgMg, CuSi, NiGa, CuBe, MnV, NiZn, FeV, CrTi, CrNi, NiAlRu, NiAlW, NiAlTa, [NiAlHf] NiAlHf, NiAlMo, NiAlCr, NiAlZr, NiAlNb, and Al₂FeMn₂, and the intermediate layer comprises the material containing Cr.

Page 27, last paragraph (Amended). In the present invention, as described in the constitution 7, the nonmagnetic film is not limited as long as the role of the seed layer (for obtaining the uniform and fine crystal particle diameter of the magnetic layer) is fulfilled, and preferably comprises one alloy selected from the group consisting of NiAl, AlCo, FeAl, FeTi, CoFe, CoTi, CoHf, CoZr, NiTi, CuZn, AlMn, AlRe, AgMg, CuSi, NiGa, CuBe, MnV, NiZn, FeV, CrTi, CrNi, NiAlRu, NiAlW, NiAlTa, [NiAlHf] NiAlHf, NiAlMo, NiAlCr, NiAlZr, NiAlNb, and Al₂FeMn₂.

MARKED-UP COPY OF THE CLAIMS AS AMENDED

Claim 3 (Amended). The magnetic recording medium according to claim 1 [or 2] wherein said crystal particle diameter control layer comprises an alloy further containing manganese (Mn).

Claim 5 (Amended). The magnetic recording medium [according to any one of claims 1 to 4] of claim 1 wherein said crystal particle diameter control layer further contains at least one

element selected from a group consisting of molybdenum (Mo), vanadium (V), tungsten (W), zirconium (Zr), titanium (Ti), tantalum (Ta), nickel (Ni), niobium (Nb), oxygen (O), and nitrogen (N).

Claim 7 (Amended). A magnetic recording medium including two or more magnetic layers on a substrate, and including a nonmagnetic layer between at least one pair of said magnetic layers, wherein:

said nonmagnetic layer comprises the crystal particle diameter control layer of claim 1 [according to any one claims 1 to 7].

Claim 9 (Amended). The magnetic recording medium according to claim 7 [or 8] wherein the film thickness of said nonmagnetic layer is in a range of 5 to 100 angstroms.

Claim 10 (Amended). The magnetic recording medium according to [any one of claims 7 to 9] claim 7 wherein for said magnetic layer, the saturation magnetic flux density B_s of the substrate-side magnetic layer is larger than the saturation magnetic flux density B_s of the medium surface-side magnetic layer.

Claim 12 (Amended). The magnetic recording medium according to claim [7] 11 wherein an under film for adjusting the crystal orientation of the magnetic layer is formed between said seed layer and said magnetic layer.

Claim 13 (Amended). The magnetic recording medium according to claim [7] 11 wherein the film thickness of said nonmagnetic film is in a range of 100 to 550 angstroms.

Claim 14 (Amended). The magnetic recording medium according to claim [7] 11 wherein the film thickness of said intermediate layer is in a range of 5 to 50 angstroms.

Claim 15 (Amended). The magnetic recording medium according to claim [7] 11 wherein said intermediate layer comprises a nonmagnetic material which includes the same crystal structure as that of said nonmagnetic film.

Claim 16 (Amended). The magnetic recording medium according to claim [11] 15 wherein said intermediate layer comprises a material in which a crystal lattice surface interval does not match with that of said nonmagnetic film.

Claim 17 (Amended). The magnetic recording medium according to claim [12] 16 wherein said nonmagnetic film comprises a material containing one alloy selected from a group consisting of NiAl, AlCo, FeAl, FeTi, CoFe, CoTi, CoHf, CoZr, NiTi, CuZn, AlMn, AlRe, AgMg, CuSi, NiGa, CuBe, MnV, NiZn, FeV, CrTi, CrNi, NiAlRu, NiAlW, NiAlTa, [NiAlHf] NiAlHf, NiAlMo, NiAlCr, NiAlZr, NiAlNb, and Al_2FeMn_2 , and said intermediate layer comprises a material containing Cr.

Claim 18 (Amended). The magnetic recording medium according to claim [13] 17 wherein said intermediate layer comprises a material formed of Cr and at least one type selected from a group consisting of Mo, V, W, and Ta.

Claim 19 (Amended). The magnetic recording medium according to claim [14] 18 wherein said intermediate layer comprises an alloy mainly containing Cr and W.

Claim 24 (Amended). The thermal stability measuring apparatus of the magnetic recording medium according to claim [19] 23 wherein said head/disk mechanism section comprises a mechanism for fixing the magnetic head to a predetermined position above the main surface of the magnetic disk.